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and 1.4 per cent of the women teachers are above sixty years of age. This small percentage of elderly teachers is partly due to the operation of the Pension Law of 1886 but it is also largely due to the exhausting nature of the teaching profession, and to the poor salaries paid to Prussian teachers, which necessitate them giving what should be their hours of rest, to labor, in order to supplement their scanty incomes. A doleful consequence of this excessive labor is the large percentage of teachers who die before reaching middle age. Whilst throughout Prussia the number of widows is about one-fourth of the total number of marriages, the widows of teachers number one-third of the marriages. The minimum salary of a Prussian teacher is 750 marks (£37 10s.), but he does not receive all this in cash. He receives a free house and firing. The value of these items is reckoned up and deducted from his cash payment. Dividing the total cash sum paid to teachers in Prussia by the total members of teachers' families, it results that the average annual income for each member of a family is 272 marks (£13 12s.), or 75 pfennige (9d.) per day. This is, of course, an average, but in the cases of large families the amount per diem per individual is much less. The article which we are endeavoring to summarize pays a high tribute to the influence for good exercised by the teaching body, not only on the children with whom they are immediately brought into contact, but on the people amongst whom they dwell, and questions whether it is a wise policy for Prussian statesmen to allow so worthy a body of men and women to continue to be remunerated at a rate which is sufficient to do little more than provide food. The "land of the schools and the barracks" should be the last to have such a reproach leveled at it.

SALARIES, IRELAND.

Salaries in Ireland are, of course, abominably shabby. The head master averages £87 1s. 2d. (England, £134 5s. 8d.; Scotland, £165 10s. 10d.). The head mistress "enjoys" on an average £73 9s. 6d. per annum (England, £83 8s. 6d.; Scotland, £74 14s. 9d.). The assistant certificated master, £52 14s. 1d. (England, £94 9s. 9d.; Scotland, £91 18s. 11d.). And, finally, the Irish assistant certificated mistress revels in £43 os. 8½d. a year on an average, whilst her English and Scotch sisters are paid £69 6d. 7d. and £59 4s. 7d. respectively.

STATE AID, ENGLAND.

Technical Instruction.—In the House of Commons, Saturday, 16th September, Mr. H. Fowler informed Mr. Loder that out of the sums allocated to the London County Council for the furtherance of Technical Instruction, £30,000 was expended for that purpose in 1892-3, and £57,000 this year, while the County Council received in 1892-3 from the Government £172,000, and they would receive about the same sum this year.

Museums, Picture Galleries, and Colleges.—The House went into Committee of Supply, when votes for £405,015 for Science and Art, £87,500 for the British Museum, £6,383 for the National Gallery, £736 for the National Portrait Gallery, and £13,633 for scientific investigation in the United Kingdom were agreed to after a brief discussion.

COMMUNICATION.

[The following letter received by the SCHOOL REVIEW is of interest to all teachers of the State of New York, and we regret our inability to print it earlier.—Editor SCHOOL REVIEW.]

DEAR SIR :

The great growth of the regents' examinations has made it impossible for the regents office to extend to the schools the amount of accommodation

which they previously enjoyed, unless increased means are furnished. The number of academic papers examined has increased from 107,000 in 1889 to 184,000 in 1893. The appropriation for the examinations last year was \$21,-500 and they actually cost \$26,500. The office was fortunately able nearly to meet this deficit through the moneys received for professional law and medical examinations, but the burden of these examinations was borne without any increase in the force, by those who certainly had enough to do without assuming any additional duties, and this strain cannot be continued. It will thus be seen that in order to continue the examinations as they are now conducted it will require an increased appropriation of \$5,000. In the principals' conference during convocation last July, the question of the abolition of any of the examinations was very fully discussed, and it was voted to ask the legislature for an additional appropriation, and to take active measures to secure legislative action to this end. It was the unanimous vote that to do away with any of the examinations would seriously imperil the usefulness if not the continued existence of many of the Academies and academic departments of Union Schools.

Nothing can be done in getting such an appropriation unless the members of the legislature are made to understand thoroughly that it is an expense demanded by the educational interests of the state. When the legislature is in session it is very difficult to press the matter upon the attention of members. If we get anything at all it must be by the united efforts of the principals of the state exerted before the legislature meets.

This committee has been appointed by the principals of the state, to place before you the facts, and earnestly request you to see personally, if possible, your member and senator, and urge upon them the vital importance to higher education of this increased appropriation.

In your Board of Education, or in the circle of your acquaintance, there will be some man prominent in local politics who is known to your assemblyman and senator, as a man of influence. Explain the case fully to him, and have him use his influence to the same end.

The principals feel that this is one of the most important questions which has come before them, and one which demands concerted and rigorous action both before and after election.

Can we rely upon you to work for this increased appropriation for higher education?

HENRY WHITE CALLAHAN, Kingston Academy,
ROLAND S. KEYSER, Middleburgh Union School, } Committee.
C. T. R. SMITH, Lansingburgh Academy,